

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSC-05 AID-05 IGA-01 /044 R

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AF/E - MR. BARRETT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ASMARA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: NOON BRIEFING RE ETHIOPIA

FOLLOWING IS AN EXCERPT FROM THE NOVEMBER 29 DEPARTMENT
PRESS BRIEFING RE ETHIOPIA.

Q. CAN YOU BRING US UP TO DATE ON THIS SITUATION IN
ETHIOPIA WITH REGARD TO THE FORMER EMPEROR, AND THE NEW
LEADERSHIP -- OR ANYTHING ELSE YOU MAY HAVE ON THAT,
WHICH WOULD CLARIFY THAT SITUATION?

A. WELL, I REALLY DON'T HAVE MUCH NEW TO REPORT ON THE
SITUATION THERE, WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMER EMPEROR.
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD TO WHAT I SAID ON
WEDNESDAY.

- -

OF COURSE, WE ARE AWARE OF THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE
PROVISIONAL MILITARY COUNCIL, A BRIGADIER GENERAL
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TEFARI BANTI, BUT THAT'S ABOUT ALL THAT I'M --

Q. BUT PAUL, WHAT I WAS GETTING AT WAS: DO WE KNOW THE
FORMER EMPEROR IS SAFE? OR ARE WE ONLY OPERATING ON THE
ASSUMPTION THAT HE IS BECAUSE THAT GOVERNMENT SAID THAT
HE IS?

A. I WOULD HAVE TO CHECK SPECIFICALLY, BUT I BELIEVE WE
ARE OPERATING ON THE ASSURANCES THAT THE ETHIOPIAN
FOREIGN MINISTRY GAVE TO US.
INGERSOLL

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